* Serial No.: 09/697,429

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2 and 4 is acknowledged and

appreciated. Although the pending rejections are traversed, solely in order to expedite issuance of

the present application, the rejected claims have been canceled without prejudice/disclaimer to the

subject matter embodied thereby and claims 2 and 4 have been rewritten into independent form so

as to leave only allowable claims pending.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all

claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are

any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the

Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby

made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit

account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 21, 2004

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